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Management Officer

21 February 1949

Chief, FBIB

Personal Service Requirements in FBIB Field Bureaus for Fiscal 1950.

1. A re-examination of fiscal year 1950 requirements for personal services in FBIB field bureaus, as reflected in budget estimates submitted in April 1948 and in current personnel ceilings, is necessitated by the following developments;

- a. Delay in the construction of the Okinawa station and consequent need to maintain the Kauai station active.
- b. Dissatisfaction on the part of ORE and other IAC estimating offices with current collection of intelligence information from critical areas of the Far East.
- c. Intensified FBIB exploitation of material from Soviet regional transmitters, particularly for economic data and information contributing to studies of strategic vulnerability.
- d. Increases in the number of transmitters and in the number of broadcasts from established transmitters which require monitoring, together with exploitation of radio-teletype transmissions.
- e. The necessity for consolidating East Coast Bureau operations during fiscal 1950.
- f. Agreement with the BBC Monitoring Service to assume coverage of transmitters which are better heard at FBIB stations than at Caversham.
- g. Deactivation of the Cairo station, expected to be accomplished prior to 1 July 1949.

2. Attached tabulation shows current personnel ceilings and estimated requirements, as well as funds estimated in April 1948 and re-estimated as of this date. Ceiling figures combine local and classified employees. It is observed that total personal services required during the first half of fiscal 1950 are below the current personnel ceiling by the difference between a reduction of local employees at Mediterranean Bureau and an increase in classified

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employees elsewhere. Re-estimated funds reflect not only additions to personnel but also the \$390 salary increase effected 1 July 1948 and changes in overseas allowances.

3. Estimated staff requirements are based upon the following proposals:

a. Okinawa. As noted in 1 b above, there is need for additional information from critical areas of the Far East. It is proposed, as soon as sufficient housing has been constructed, probably about 1 July 1949, to initiate an interim monitoring operation on Okinawa with temporary facilities to provide coverage during the first half of fiscal 1950 of medium-wave broadcasts from Communist China, Siam, Burma and Indochina and of shortwave broadcasts from these countries and from Siberian Russia, Outer Mongolia, Indonesia, India, Pakistan and other Indian states. It is hoped that completion of construction by 1 January 1950 will enable the Okinawa station to assume its full complement of monitoring transferred from Kauai and Tokyo and additional new coverage during the second half of the year.

b. Tokyo. [] will supplement the interim operation on Okinawa, sharing the workload in accordance with the availability of linguists and reception conditions in Japan. It is of particular importance, now that Chinese Communist successes and the Dutch action in Indonesia have aggravated unsettled conditions throughout the Far East, that Tokyo's present coverage of Korean, Chinese, Tonkinese, Cochinchinese and Indonesian broadcasts not be reduced until the Okinawa station is able to take over, when all monitoring proper at Tokyo can be discontinued.

c. Kauai. Since interim monitoring on Okinawa, like monitoring at Tokyo, will be exclusively of broadcasts inaudible in the Hawaiian Islands, no compensatory reduction of Kauai coverage and staff will be possible until the Okinawa station is fully activated. It will probably be desirable, however, to transfer some items of coverage to the Haseda station, effecting a moderate adjustment of the Kauai staff during the first half of the fiscal year. As the table indicates, it is hoped that Hawaiian Bureau will be abandoned approximately 1 January 1950.

d. West Coast Bureau, though taking over only a small amount of Kauai's monitoring load during the first half of the year, will assume a large portion of it upon deactivation of the Kauai station. Shortwave material audible on West Coast, but now monitored on Kauai, includes Morse code and voice from China, Indonesia, Philippines, USSR, Siam and Japan. Present

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concentration of West Coast Bureau effort upon the collection of USSR economic data through monitoring of broadcasts from Khabarevsk, Petropavlevsk, Nikolaevsk, Leningrad, Magadan and Vladivostok, as well as Moscow, precludes the possibility of assuming any portion of Kausal coverage without additions to the staff. It is estimated that coverage to be transferred will require 18 employees, primarily Chinese linguists and Morse monitoring technicians with editors and teletypists for processing their output.

e. East Coast Bureau. Upon completion of construction at Hedgeneck, Maryland in the fall of 1949, and possibly before that time, it is proposed to consolidate the monitoring and processing operation at East Coast Bureau with the technical operation now carried on at a separate location. The removal of East Coast monitors from the FBIS headquarters office, while making possible a radical improvement in an operation which is now in some respects substandard, will require appointment of a bureau chief and a staff of editors and teletypists as provided in the current table of organization. It is believed that an increase of 10 in the current personnel ceiling will be sufficient for the first half of fiscal 1950, but that further exploitation of radio-teletype transmissions and increased coverage of European shortwave voice at Hedgeneck will require 4 additional positions for the second half of the year.

f. London Bureau. Operations at Caversham are expected to remain essentially the same. An extreme shortage in the editorial staff at the present time is the result of lags in filling vacancies and providing replacements during reorientation rather than from lack of positions.

g. Mediterranean Bureau. Deactivation of the Cairo station prior to 1 July 1949 will effect a reduction of approximately 50 local employees under the current ceiling. During the first half of fiscal 1950 the established Mediterranean Bureau T/O of 27 classified employees, with 45 foreign nationals employed locally, will be adequate at Kyrenia to take over and moderately expand coverage now effected in Cairo. FBIS is committed, however, by agreement with the EBC Monitoring Service to assume coverage at Kyrenia as soon as possible of transmitters now monitored at Caversham but more fully audible on Cyprus. It is expected that this transfer of responsibility will result in significantly better coverage of the home service broadcasts of Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Rumania and Iran, of Soviet Satellite broadcasts beamed to the USSR and to other Satellites,

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and of USSR regional services from dozens of locations in western and south central Russia. The yield from this monitoring will be minutely exploited for economic information and data concerning strategic vulnerability, as well as the normal uses in the political and propaganda fields. It is estimated, therefore, that 10 additional locally employed linguists will be required after 1 January 1950.

L. K. WHITE

Attachment

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